Special International Force for Protection of Space Assets

1693. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a call for creation of a special international force for protection of the space assets of various countries;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken any step to achieve this goal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) The President of India mentioned in his address to the Space Summit organised on January 4, 2003 at Bangalore under the Indian Science Congress of 2003 that there was a need for an International Space Force made up of all nations willing to participate and contribute to protect world space assets in a manner which would enable peaceful use of space on a global cooperative basis without the looming threat of conflict on earth.

(b) Since it is an issue of international dimensions to be examined by different countries, it cannot be achieved at the level of the Government.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Space technology development and application

1694. SHRIMATI S. G. INDIRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether International Space Research Organisation has called for a great collaboration effort for space technology development and application;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been entered into with any of the country in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPACE (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) and (b) There has not been any specific call for a great collaboration effort. But Space Research Organisations have generally accepted the need for co-operation.

(c) India has co-operative agreements with Australia, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chin, EUMETSAT, European Space Agency (ESA), France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Mauritius, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Russia, Sweden, Syria, Thailand, U.K. Ukraine

and U.S.A. These agreements provide for different joint activities of mutual interest and benefit in the areas of research, pilot projects, satellite missions, satellite operations, launch services and training.

MPLADS fund for Gujarat

1695. SHRI LALITBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount that was collected from MPLADS of Rajya Sabha MPs for earthquake affected Gujarat;

(b) the details of the rehabilitation projects approved by the MPLADS Committee in Earthquake affected areas in the State and their status as on the 31st December, 2002;

(c) the agencies implementing the above projects; and

(d) the amount at the disposal of the implementing agencies and the balance with them as on the 31st December, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SATYABRATA MOOKHERJEE): (a) A total of Rs. 2570 lakh has been contributed by the Rajya Sabha MPs from their MPLADS funds for taking up rehabilitation projects in the earthquake affected areas of Gujarat, on the recommendations of the Committee on MPLADS, Rajya Sabha. The details are given below:

No. of MPs	Contribution per MP (Rs. lakh)	Total amount (Rs. lakh)
1	5	5
138	10	1380
1	15	15
6	20	120
2	25	50
2	50	100
1	100	100
4	200	800
	Grand Total	**Rs. 2570**

(b) The following rehabilitation projects have been approved by the Committee on MPLADS, Rajya Sabha: